

BUILTH URBAN DISTRICT.Report of the Medical Officer of Health.1941.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report for the year 1941. This is again very restricted and is prepared on the lines indicated in Circulars 2314 (Wales) and 2067 (Wales). At the request of the Welsh Board of Health no reference is made to war time industrial, military, or other important developments, such as extensions of water supplies or sewerage works, or other public utility undertakings. This report is confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the public health during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year the following notifications of cases of infectious disease were received. These refer to civilian cases only.

Measles.....9 cases.  
Cerebrospinal Fever.....1 case.  
Scarlet Fever.....1 case.  
Diphtheria.....4 cases.

The measles cases formed part of a large epidemic which affected the greater part of the County. The cases were of a mild type. The cases of diphtheria were caused in all probability by the presence of a carrier who was detected in school. All four cases were school children who had received immunising injections. Three cases were very mild and the fourth was of moderate severity. It is interesting to note that these cases are the only ones in the whole of my district who have contracted diphtheria after receiving immunising injections.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

In January, 1941, the campaign of providing protection against diphtheria was commenced. This was adequately advertised and all the schools in my district were visited by me on three occasions when the injections were given. A modified procedure was adopted later in the year when, owing to the fact that the majority of the children were immunised on the first occasion, they were asked on the second occasion to attend at a certain definite time and place. This method is proving very satisfactory and the response is very good. A.P.T. was used and it was found that the reactions were very slight, being limited to occasional soreness and pain at the site of injection and sometimes a slight rise of temperature. No abscess was seen. The following figures show the number of children immunised and the percentages.

Under 5 years.....889..68.5%.  
Over 5 years.....3243.84%.

All children between the ages of 1 year and 15 years were given the chance to become immunised, and it is proposed to offer the same facilities in the summer of each year in future. The above figures show the total for the Combined Northern Districts.

Builth Urban District.

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No exceptional administrative measure was undertaken or recommended by me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

T.C.R.GEORGE.

Medical Officer of Health.